

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 5, and ending on page 1, line 10 with the following:

The invention relates to a method and device for processing blood in extracorporeal circulation. Reference is made to co-pending application U.S. Serial No. 10/804,583 filed on even date herewith and entitled “Device and Method for Processing Blood in Extracorporeal Circulation” which is assigned to the assignee of the present invention and which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.